Numb. 8.

The British Apollo.

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

From Friday March 5th. to Wednesday March 10th. 1708.

Since our Paper will not contain all the Queſtions that are ſent us, with their Solutions; once a Month we ſhall Publiſh an entire Sheet of thoſe we cannot inſert in theſe; where the Queriſts may find Anſwers to thoſe which are not ſolv'd before: Tho' this will be a Supernumerary Paper, yet none are oblig'd to take it, but they who pleaſe. The want of ſuch a Paper occaſion'd divers Reflections on the *Athenian Oracle*.

Q. *THere being no Crimes more expreſly forbid, both by the Laws of God and Man, than Murther and Revenge, eſpecially Self murther; which by all Chriſtians is juſtly eſteem'd, the moſt abhorrent to Human Nature. I would intreat your Solution of the following Queſtion: How ſhall I acquit* Sampſon *from being a Notorious Inſtance of both theſe Crimes, in a way conſiſtent with the Notions we ought to have of the Divine Attributes and Commands, ſince its very evident that He was mov'd by Revenge, when He pray'd that God would aſſiſt Him: And that God in Anſwer to his Prayer did give him Power to deſtroy Himſelf and ſeveral Thouſands of the* Philiſtines?

Your Servant,
LUCINDA.

A. We approve of St. *Auſtin*'s Opinion, that the ardency of *Sampſon*'s Prayer proceeded, not from any private Spirit of Revenge, but from a Divine Impulſe moving him thereunto, and this is confirm'd from the Succeſs of his Petition; ſince we are aſſured, that God heareth not Sinners, eſpecially in the very Subject matter of their Sin. And if *Sampſon* was mov'd from above to the Action he perform'd, we cannot but allow, that He, who has the ſole diſpoſal of our Lives, can commiſſion any of his Creatures to deſtroy themſelves. But if we further conſider the Action as Heroical, in that by ſo great a Slaughter of the *Philiſtines* he wrought a Signal Deliverance for his Countrey, ſure thus to die for the publick good is foreign to the common Notion of Self-murther. And tho' a Sentence of his Prayer ſeems expreſly to inform us of his deſire, to be reveng'd for the deprivation of his Sight, yet we need not expound it in a rigorous acceptation, but may ſo mollify it as to ſuppoſe, that ſo inhumane a cruelty in the Lords of the *Philiſtines* to one, who was Judge in *Iſrael*, made them Veſſels of Wrath better fitted for Deſtruction. From the Premiſes therefore we may give *Sampſon* an Acquittal, ſince he antidated a Goſpel precept, and laid down his Life for his Brethren.

Q. *Whether the Air, which the Pleniſts hold is the Medium employ'd by Nature for the filling up all imaginable Vacuums in the World, be it ſelf perfectly full and without Pores, and conſequently capable to furniſh other Bodies to an abſolute Plenitude?*

A. They who allow a Vacuum, as We do, muſt grant withal, that there is no imaginable way of knowing, whether the moſt ſubtile Matter exiſtent in the World be with or without Pores. Cou'd the *Pleniſts* prove their *plenum*, by the ſame Argument it wou'd neceſſarily follow, that ſuch *materia ſubtiliſſima* is without Pores. But ſince which Side ſoever of the Queſtion be true, a Vacuum may be ſtill allow'd of, and ſince it muſt be granted poſſible, that the Particles compoſing the *materia ſubtiliſſima* may be ſo aptly diſpos'd together as to exclude poroſity, and ſince the minuteneſs of ſuch *materia* eludes Human Obſervation, and therefore forbids us to proceed beyond the bare poſſibility of its Component Parts being ſo diſpos'd, the Natural Conſequence reſulting from the Premiſes can be no other than that your Queſtion is irreſolvable.

Q. *Suppoſing I have a Challenge ſent me fight, and I am unwilling to do it, ſince it is againſt the Laws of God and Man. How ſhall I behave my ſelf ſo as to ſave my Honour?*

A. Antiquity preſents us with a memorable Paſſage concerning two Soldiers in *Cæſar*'s Army, who upon a very hot Contention agreed upon this Expedient to decide the Quarrel; namely, vigorouſly to attack the Common Enemy, and vindicate their own by their Countrey's Honour. The Reſolution taken, one of them aſſaulted the thickeſt Squadrons, and had lik'd to have ſav'd his Reputation at the expence of his Liberty: But the other reviewing the danger of his Antagoniſt flew after him with a generous Emulation, bravely reſcued him from his ſurrounding Foes, and gloriouſly overthrew him by a Prevention of his overthrow. *Apollo* is a ſtrange Admirer of ſuch Genuine Bravery, and therefore Preſſingly recommends ſo noble an Experiment.

Q. *Since you are Mathematical, and reſolve Caſes belonging to chance, you will oblige me to let me know whether there is any odds in playing at Even or Odd, if there is any, it ſeems very odd to me?*

A. Tho'

A. Tho' you ſeem merrily diſpoſed, and to have ſent this Queſtion for the ſake of a Pun, yet there is more in it than perhaps you imagine, for the greateſt Number of Pieces that you can graſp, is either an even Number or an odd one: If it is an even Number, then in this Number and all the Numbers inferior to it, there is as many even Numbers as odd ones, and therefore it is equal which is taken; if the greateſt Number of Pieces you can graſp is odd, then there is advantage in gueſſing odd; for in an Odd Number and the inferiors to it there is one Odd Number more, than there are Even Ones; and therefore upon the whole, there is an Advantage in taking Odd preferably to Even; we don't know whether this Reaſon can convince you, but whether it does or no, we may aſſure you (to return Pun for Pun) that it is even ſo.

Q. *Why is it, that ſo very few are qualified with juſt and ſublime Notions of Friendſhip?*

A. We conceive the chief Reaſon to be, the Corruption of our Manners, the Generality of People, living a Life of Senſe, and not of *Reaſon*, of which *Friendſhip*, is the Off-ſpring.

Q. *I deſire to know the Reaſon why the Ladies in* St. James's *and other Churches, bow the Knee lower and with more Reverence one to another in the time of Divine Service, than they do at the Name of* Jeſus?

A. External Geſture is no certain Index of the Mind, therefore we muſt be wary how we Cenſure; If the Ladies intend in their Hearts more Reverence to each other, than to the Name of *Jeſus*, it is doubtleſs a very great Crime; but if that remiſneſs ariſeth from the Reſignation of their whole Minds in Devotion, the Fault is venial, if any; ſince the Adoration of the Heart is far more acceptable to God Almighty, than that of Geſture: But the Ladies Conſciences alone, can give a Certain Anſwer to this Queſtion.

Q. *What do the* French *intend, by thoſe warlike Preparations, &c. they are now making?*

A. We would adviſe you to conſult the *FRENCH STATESMAN*, for we do not pretend to hold any Correſpondence with him.

Q. Gentlemen, *Reading your Paper of the 18th of this Month, I underſtand you propoſe to Anſwer all manner of Queſtions, I preſume to ſtart one, which is as follows, viz. What is the diſtance between the Seven-Stars and the Moon?*

A. Really *Madam*, *Apollo* is afraid to gueſs at the exact Diſtance, leaſt he ſhou'd miſtake an Inch or 2 in his Reckoning, beſides we don't know whether he ever took the pains to meaſure it, for you muſt underſtand *Madam*, that *Apollo* is the Sun himſelf, and the Moon a little thing below his Conſideration.

Q. *I deſire that in your next you would pleaſe to tell me why a Drake hath a Curled Feather on his Rump?*

A. For Diſtinction, as Fools have in their Caps.

POEMS.

Q. *TEll me, Dear Youths, who all* Apollo *claim,*
If Women love with ne'er ſo bright a flame,
Chaſt as Cold Veſtals, And that Love diſcloſe,
Why They in telling, Fame and Honour looſe,
Why muſt th' unhappy Sex ſuch dangers run,
We die, if We conceal, and if declare, Undone?

A. 'Tis for the Glory of your Sex that Heav'n,
Inſpires this Notion in the Minds of Men;
That you ſhou'd be Addreſt and we Adore,
To humble us and raiſe your Value more;
And therefore as propitious to your Fame,
'Twas thence enjoyn'd on Penalty of Shame,
Leaſt Paſſion, ſenſe of Honour might ſubdue,
And Love (Neglected) firſt ſhou'd ſtart from You,
Whilſt Difficulty magnifies the Prize,
But what is freely Offer'd moſt diſpiſe;
Which to our Grief we find oft in your ſcornful (Eyes.

Q. *Ye Britiſh Wiſemen, which the moſt compleat Divine, of* Barrow, Tillotſon, or Stillingfleet?

A. Three Glorious Lights, which in the Church did Shine,
All of a piece throughout, and *ALL DIVINE.*

Q. *When bright PHOSPHER uſhers in the day,*
And all's Radient Beams to us diſplay,
Doth he move in the Place he's got in,
Or elſe i'th' Place which he is not in:
Pray let me know, Britains Apollo
If Abſurdities from both may'nt follow?

A. Thou ſubtil Queriſt big with Thougts profound
Whoſe depth of Senſe no Mortal e'er can ſound;
So far from Human Reach, we dare make good,
That thy Great Self, thy Self ne'er underſtood:
Yet this we humbly offer to your Lines,
Where *Phoſpher Is*, there radient *Phoſpher Shines.*

Q. *Off ſpring of Phœbus, Sons of Delian Sire,*
For ſo We judge You, by your Parts and Fire,
Tell us, Why Thoſe, The Vulgar call The Wiſe,
Do Wit, and Witty Men, ſo much deſpiſe?

A. The Man of *wit*, and not of *judgment* too,
Is juſtly ſlighted by the *wiſer* few;
But when *both* joyn, and in one Center fall,
That Man, like thee, commands Reſpect from all.

The following Lines *were ſent us by a* Lady.

As a grateful Acknowledgment of the pleaſing Amuſement your valuable Performance has given me, and to teſtify how paſſionately I wiſh the ſucceſsful continuance of ſo inſtructive an Undertaking, the inclos'd Eſſay is moſt humbly preſented by

Your Admirer

LUCINDA.

To the Sons of Apollo.

GO on BRIGHT YOUTHS quit not the Glorious Toil,
But with delightful Wit our anxious Cares beguile!
Let ſprightly Fancy ſparkle in each Line,
And new diſcoveries deck with new Deſign!

Whilſt

Whilſt Sportful Nature cloſely You purſue,
And as She flies, your artful Search renew!
Tho' in wild Labrinths intricate She Strays,
And forms her Great Deſigns a thouſand various ways;

The thickeſt gloom of Night the Goddeſs hides,
And rude acceſs, to Vulgar Eyes derides;
Yet to the Wiſe, with Godlike genius born,
She will unveil and ſhow her wondrous Form:
Nor mind poor harmleſs BEAUX's of modern caſt,
Nor CRITICKS meagre with black Envies blaſt;
For theſe are FORC'D to damn, what they want FORCE to Taſt,

Nor fear your gen'rous Labours juſt Reward,
Whilſt Wit has Charms and Beauty has Regard.
For ſo while Natures Secrets you reveal,
And of her Glories, of her Wonders tell,
Or Sacred TRUTH triumphantly ſet free,
From Errors Night and long Captivity.
How the pleas'd Goddeſs urges on the Race,
See with what Smiles ſhe courts your lov'd Embrace,
And leaves bright Tracts of Light behind, to guide you in the Chace?

To a Friend who diſwaded me from loving CELINDA.

GO check the blooming Glories of the Spring,
Forbid the tuneful *Nightingale* to ſing.
Bid northern Winds and Tempeſts ceaſe to roar,
And breaking Billows ſwell, beyond the ſhore.
Go tame the angry *Lion* from his rage,
Or lock the *Tyger* in a *Sparrows* Cage.
Go make the coldeſt Waters nouriſh flame,
And lull to ſleep the wakeful Voice of fame.
Command the Sun his conſtant Courſe to change,
Force the fix'd Stars thro' various Orbs to range.
With tow'ring Eagles Wings, attempt to fly,
And mount, in lofty flights, above the Skie.
This may be try'd, but He who thinks to move,
My matchleſs Paſſion, or unbounded Love;
May ſooner graſp the Thunder of the Skie,
And cloath his mortal frame, with Immortality.

On a Lady *who cou'd command her* Tears.

WHY *Chloe*, why this voluntary Tear?
No Miſtreſs ſuch ſpontaneous Throbs Endear.
Shou'd I the beauty of your form admire,
Such ready Streamings wou'd but quench the fire.
Cou'd frequent floodings make a briny Sea,
You think you ſhou'd another *Venus* be.
Leave *Chloe*, leave your dewy Cheeks to wet,
Thence *Venus* riſes, there alas! You ſet.
A fruitleſs hope your ſickly fancy feeds,
Love's not an Inſect, that in Moiſture breeds.
Tho' his bright Mother did in Ocean thrive,
Yet little Cupid has not learnt to Dive.

Love the moſt prevailing Paſſion.

IN vain You urge, Ambition is a Toy,
Empire a Trifle, which affords no Joy
Compar'd with Love; when *That* the Soul Inſpires
'Tis fill'd with bliſs, and burns with Nobler Fires,
It views all other Pleaſures with Disdain,
But ſuch as are ſubſervient to Love's Reign.
That *God-like Roman* who ſuch firmneſs ſhow'd,
To looſe the Worlds Command for what He lov'd,
Had a juſt Notion of the Heavenly Flame,
And is Love's *Hero* in the Mouth of Fame.
Had *Cleopatra* like *Hortenſia* been,
With Eyes ſo bright, with ſo Divine a Mien,
And I been own'd the Worlds Imperial Head,
At her Command, whole Nations ſhou'd have bled,
Like *Anthony*, no other Bliſs I'ad known,
But for a Smile, The *Globe* it ſelf had gone.

Foreign News, *&c.*

VIenna Feb. 28th. The day for his Imperial Majeſties Departure from Presbourg is not yet fixed, tho' preparations are making for the ſame, and Prince *Eugene*, with ſeveral Great Miniſters are to accompany his Majeſty thither. A Suſpention of Arms in Hungary has been propoſed by the Emperour, and rejected by Prince Ragotski, who is preparing to act with Vigour againſt the Imperialiſts, having lately receiv'd great Remittances from France.

Advices from Poland of the 29th paſt inform us, That the Swedes were come to Wilda, that they found there a great quantity of Proviſions, and were preparing to continue their March towards Minsk, but the Muſcovites retire before them, and are making a Line from Mohilon to Smolensko, where they intend to make a ſtand, and oppoſe the Courſe of the Swedes; tho' at the ſame time, 'its given out, that his Swediſh Majeſty is reſolv'd to purſue them, and attack them the firſt Opportunity.

Francfort March 7th. The French are return'd to their former quarters, and, as tis ſaid, will not be able to take the Field before May, for want of Magazines. The Intrenchments which the Germans were making in the paſſages to the Black Forreſt, are compleated; ſo that if the Enemy ſhou'd attempt to penetrate into Bavaria that way, it may prove a very warm undertaking.

We hear the French had a Deſign to Surpriſe Traerback, but fail'd in their Attempt thro' the Vigilance of the Governour; at the ſame time they give out, they will act Offenſively on that ſide this Summer, and endeavour to Re-eſtabliſh the Elector of Cologn.

Neufchatel March 8th. The Roman Catholick Cantons oppoſe the alterations made to the late project of a Neutrality by the Canton of Bern; and tis reported, they deſign to abſent themſelves from the Diet which is Summon'd to meet this Month at Baden; tho' at the ſame time it is believ'd by people of the beſt Underſtanding, that they will alter their Reſolution, and contribute all that lyes in their power to conclude this Important Affair, to the Common

mon Safety and Repose of the whole Helvetic Body. The Marquis of Puisieux is recal'd, and the Abbot of Pompone is to succeed him.

Paris March 9. 'Tis now a publick Discourse, that the Preparations at Dunkirk are design'd against Scotland, where they say a considerable Party is already under Arms to receive the Pretended Prince of Wales. Who took leave of his Most Christian Majesty on the 5th, and set out on the 7th in the Morning for Dunkirk, with several Scotch and Irish Lords in his Retinue, to Embark on board the Fleet, with about 8000 Men. Great Sums of Money have been distributed among the Generals and Officers, who are to serve in that Expedition. 'Tis said the Brest Squadron is arriv'd at Dunkirk.

London, March 10. Notwithstanding these mighty Preparations at Dunkirk, We seem in no great Pain, there being 35 British Men of War to speak with them as they pass.

Sir John Leake is Sail'd with the Fleet under his Convoy for Lisbon.

The East-India Ships that have been so long in Ireland are safely arriv'd.

Letters from Edingburg say. They are much surpriz'd at the News they receiv'd from Court, of the Great Preparations of the French at Dunkirk and Brest, and that the same were design'd for Scotland. The Magistrates of that City have order'd a strong Guard to be kept day and Night, for fear of a Surprize, tho' all is quiet at present in that Country.

The Earl of Loven is gone to Edinburgh to secure the Castle of that Place, and put the Country into a Posture of Defence in case of a Descent. 'Tis said, he has Orders from Court to Seize several Great Men that are suspected. And that Duke Hamilton being unwilling to give the least Suspicion of his Person, is come to Court.

All Persons are desir'd to send their Letters, whether with Questions or Subscriptions for the Paper, either to Mr. *W. Keble* in *Westminster Hall*, Mr. *Tho. Bickerton*, at the *Golden Flower de-Luce*, in St. *Paul's Church-yard*, or to the Printers whose Name you will find at the End of the Paper, and to Superscribe them for the *British Apollo*. At which Places also Advertisements are Taken in at half a Crown each, if of moderate length (those from Quacks excepted) they may also be deliver'd to the Men, in their Walks.

The Course of the *EXCHANGE*, and other Things.

London, Tuesday the 9th of *March*, 1708.

Amsterdam	34 5	a 4
Rotterdam	34 6	a 5
Antwerp	34	
Hamburgh	33 4	
Leghorn	57	
Genoua	57	½
Venice	54	
Lisbon	5 2	½
Porto	5 1	¾
Dublin	8	
Colch. Cr. Bays	13d.	½ *per Ell.*

Note, *These were the Prices of Stocks, from Twelve to Two of the Clock.*

	Sat.	*Mon.*	*Tues.*
Bank Stock	117 ¼ ½		117 ½
Old India	108 ¾	Holi-	108
African	6 ⅝	day.	6 ⅝ a 7
Mill Bank	83 ¼		83 ¼
New Com.	258 ½		258 ½
Shares	8 ⅝		8 ⅝
Irish Lands	57 ½		57 ½
Mine Shar.	17 ¼		17 ½

The 85*th Payment of* Malt Lottery *Tickets are now in course of Payment.*

In the Exchequer.:

Int.		*Given for.*	*Paid off.*
5	6th 4 Shilling Aid	1800000	1794600
5	8th 4 Shilling Aid	1850000	1822459
5	9th 4 Shillings Aid	1850000	1777582
5	10th 4 Shilling Aid	1850000	851756
8	1st 3 Shilling Aid	1500000	1076901
7	3d 3 Shilling Aid	1400000	1374228
5	2d 2 Shilling Aid	933333	920800
6	4th 3 Shill. Aid	933333	911250
8	3 Quar. Pol	500000	289496
8	Paper for Plate	30000	14600
7	Col. Act and Leath.	564700	142262
8	Coals, 1698	500000	485000
8	Coals, 1703	500000	464439
6	Malt, 1707	650000	83470
5	Low-Wines, 1705	700000	93960
6	Subsidies, 1705	636957	247930

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Just Published,

*** Propolals for Printing the Present State of Æthiopia, Egypt, the 3 Arabia's, Palestine, and the Turkish Empire in one Vol. in Folio, by Aaron Hill Genr. The Book will contain 100 Sheets, illustrated with large Folio Cuts, by the best hands, on Copper-plates, from Paintings to that end, brought from Constantinople and Grand Cairo. The Subscription is a Guinea, half down, and half on Delivery. The Book will be publish'd, without any pretence of delay whatsoever, on the 20th Day of April next; the Author having been encourag'd to undertake it, upon the honour of her Majesties own Subscription, with his Highness the Prince, and most of the Nobility in North and South Britain. Subscriptions are taken in, and Propolals with a Specimen of a Treatise given out, by Benj. Took at the Temple Gate, R. Smith at the Royal Exchange, W. Keble in Westminster Hall, and Tho. Bickerton, at the Golden Flower de luce in St. Pauls Church yard Booksellers, where may be seen a Specimen of the Cuts also.

LOST between Temple Bar and Whitehall; on the 8th Instant a white Vellum Pocket-book containing divers Discharges, of no use to any but the Owner: If the Person who has found it, will bring it to Mr. *Joseph Williams*, by the Sign of *King William* on Horse Back at *Charing Cross*, he shall have 10*s.* for his Pains.

WHereas on Saturday last, a Gold Chain containing Six Rounds with a Gold Locket having *J. C*, in a Cipher, was Snatch'd from a Childs Neck in the Evening, near Soho-Square, If such be offer'd to be Sold or Pawn'd you are desired to stop it, and to bring it to Mr. *Youngs* in *Bloomsbury-Square*, where the Bearer shall have 2 Guineas Reward.

*** A Tortoise-shell-Snuff-box studded with Gold, was lost at or near the New Play-house, whoever brings it to *Nathaniel St. Leger*, Esq; by *Soho Square*, shall have 30 Shillings Reward.

††† Left in a Hackney-Coach a Bundle of Writings, of no Use to any but the Owner: Whoever brings them to Mr. *Johnson* in *Portugal-street Westminster*, shall have Ten Shillings Reward.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Press*, against *Water-Lane*, in *Fleet-street*. Where Advertisements are Taken in.